

## BUDGET, FINANCE & INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

June 14, 2011

7:00 P.M.

Courthouse

### PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES:

#### Members Present:

Comm. Charlie Baum  
Comm. Joe Frank Jernigan  
Comm. Will Jordan  
Comm. Robert Peay, Jr.  
Comm. Steve Sandlin  
Comm. Doug Shafer  
Comm. Joyce Ealy, Chrm.

#### Others Present:

Ernest Burgess  
Comm. Jeff Jordan  
Comm. Jeff Phillips  
Comm. Carol Cook  
Comm. Chantho Sourinho  
Comm. Allen McAdoo  
Bill Boner

#### Others Present:

Harry Gill  
Jeff Sandvig  
Mac Nolen  
Peggy Burgess  
Scott Broden  
Elaine Short

Chairman Ealy presided and began the Public Hearing on the 2011-12 budget at 7:00 P.M.

Chairman Ealy introduced the County Mayor, the Finance Director, Deputy Finance Director and members of the Budget Committee.

Chairman Ealy explained the budget process and that the County Mayor made recommendations on the budgets for the General Fund, Solid Waste/Sanitation Fund, Ambulance Service Fund, Special Purpose Fund, Drug Control Fund, and the Industrial/Economic Development Fund.

Chairman Ealy advised that the County Mayor did not make recommendations on the General Debt Service Fund, Highway Fund, General Purpose School Fund, Central Cafeteria Fund, or the Education Capital Projects Fund.

### 2011-12 BUDGET PRESENTATION – FINANCE DIRECTOR:

The Finance Director gave a brief overview of the 2011-12 budget explaining that the current property tax rate was \$2.4652 per \$100 of assessed value. No increase to the property tax rate was being proposed, but it was being proposed to shift one-half cent from the Ambulance Service Fund to the Highway Fund to meet the County's maintenance of effort on local revenue, which is determined from the average of the last five years of local revenue. It is anticipated that the proposed property tax rate will generate \$142,907,057 in property tax revenue. One cent on the property tax rate will generate \$579,698 for the General Fund and \$493,783 for the General Purpose School Fund with the difference in the value of the penny being distributed to the Murfreesboro City Schools.

The property tax levy will provide 31% of the total revenue for the county, with State revenue providing 39%. The remainder of the revenue for the county was provided from various other sources.

The total estimated expenditures for all funds were \$444,040,240. The Finance Director highlighted the appropriations for the major funds, which consisted of the General Fund, General Purpose School Fund, General Debt Service Fund, and Highway Fund.

The 2011-12 proposed General Fund budget totaled \$71,920,284. The Finance Director explained that significant items included in the 2011-12 General Fund were pay steps earned in 2010-11 were being awarded in 2011-12, but there was no increase to the base salary table; six new positions were included in the budget; two positions were eliminated; and two positions were being moved from one function in the budget to another function.

The 2011-12 proposed School's budget including the General Purpose School Fund, Central Cafeteria Fund and Education Capital Projects Fund totaled \$285,003,474. Significant items in the General Purpose School Fund included a 3.6% increase over the 2010-11 amended budget, \$6.1 million increase in state revenue, and \$2.6 million increase in the education sales tax revenue, 1.6% increase to the base salary table (the first increase since 2007-2008 on the teacher's state portion), and 1.4% non-recurring bonus to be paid from the balance remaining in the Education Jobs Fund. The budget included 100 new FTE positions.

School Capital Improvements included the Kittrell Sewer project, renovation, roofing and paving for McFadden, completing the renovation of the Homer Pittard Campus School, HVAC for Smyrna High School, paving for Riverdale High School, and various roofing projects.

The 2011-12 General Debt Service Fund proposed budget totaled \$62,417,195. Significant items in the Debt Service Fund budget included a \$21 million note to be refunded, and an expected borrowing in the fall of 2011 for Stewart's Creek High School and road projects.

The county's current existing outstanding debt as of July 1, 2011 will be \$354,180,000 with scheduled payments in 2011-12 of \$24,115,000. The outstanding debt as of June 30, 2012 was estimated to be \$330,065,000 excluding the effect of the fall borrowing.

The 2011-12 Highway Fund proposed budget totaled \$9,329,445. Significant items in the budget included the elimination of three positions and step increases for employees.

As currently presented, the 2011-12 budget proposes to use \$16,437,954 of fund balances to balance the budgets of the various funds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Chairman Ealy opened the public hearing for comments.

No one was present to comment on the 2011-12 budget.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Ealy advised of additional Budget Committee meetings to consider the 2011-12 budget on June 20 and June 22 at 5:30 P.M. with the County Commission scheduled to consider the budget at a meeting on June 27 at 9:00 A.M.

The Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

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Elaine Short, Secretary